

MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS POLICY DIRECTIVE	EFFECTIVE DATE 07/25/1988	NUMBER 04.06.135
SUBJECT PRISONERS REQUESTING OUTSIDE HEALTH SERVICES AT OWN EXPENSE	SUPERSEDES PD-DWA-63.02	
	AUTHORITY MCLA 791.265b; Administrative Rule 791.6629	
	ACA STANDARDS NONE	
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POLICY STATEMENT:

To afford limited access for prisoners to health services outside of the Department at their own expense.

POLICY:

- A. While the Department is responsible for providing prisoners with needed health services, prisoners may also be allowed to seek health services from outside providers at no cost or liability to the Department.
- B. Arrangements may be made for a licensed health care practitioner to examine a prisoner at one of the Department's institutions or at an outside location. If the examination is to take place on the institutional premises upon prior arrangement with the institutional medical director and warden, every courtesy will be extended to afford an appropriate clinic location for the interview and examination. If the examination is to take place at another location, the warden must authorize each off-site visit and approve all security and financial arrangements.
- C. Cost of transportation, custody coverage and the expense of the private consultation will be borne by the prisoner; adequate funds must be encumbered in the prisoner's account prior to approval for the off-site visit.
- D. Before the scheduled visit occurs, the prisoner must supply, in writing, agreement from the outside provider to comply with any security measures required, and must also furnish a signed release authorizing the provider to review relevant portions of the patient's health record and to furnish the Department with a written summary of the findings and any recommendations resulting from the clinic visit.
- E. In no case may the outside provider order treatment or further testing without prior approval of the institutional medical director. The private practitioner is generally viewed as a consultant only; responsibility for case management rests with the institutional medical director. In some cases treatment by the private practitioner may be allowed; this will usually be for services which the Department does not provide, e.g., gold crown dental work. The prisoner requesting these services is to be informed in advance that s/he will be responsible for any costs resulting from complications arising from this private treatment.
- F. Prisoners who obtain outside health services at their own expense, or at the expense of an outside agency such as the Veterans' Administration, are encouraged to present themselves subsequently to the institutional clinic for review of findings and recommendations and, where indicated, appropriate follow-up.
- G. The above provisions do not apply to a prisoner who has been referred to an outside provider by institutional health care staff as a necessary part of the diagnostic or treatment program. Further, the Department will accept responsibility for provision of necessary follow-up testing or treatment which has been discovered or recommended during a private consultation, in the manner and to the extent determined to be medically necessary and appropriate by the institutional medical director.